

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner accept the drawings submitted on April 21, 2005. Applicant submits that these drawings are formal.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-24 were pending in this application. By way of this reply, claims 1-24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 25-49 have been added to remove grammatical and idiomatic errors, and to clarify the claimed invention. No new matter has been added by way of new claims 25-49, as support for these claims may be found, for example, in cancelled claims 1-24 and in the Specification. Accordingly, claims 25-49 are now pending in this application. Claim 25 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 25.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention due to use of the term "it". Claim 22 has been canceled in this reply, and the new claims do not make use of the term "it". Therefore, the rejection is moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 1024582 (hereinafter “Yui”). Claim 1 has been cancelled in this reply. Thus, this rejection is now moot with respect to claim 1. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to new claims 25-48, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a polyphased rotating electrical machine having a protective cover mounted on a rear bearing thereof. Additionally, the invention is directed to an alternator and an alternator-starter having such a cover.

Accordingly, claim 25 requires a polyphased rotating electrical machine having an outer frame including a rear bearing, a cover configured to be mounted on the rear bearing, a polyphased wound stator having a plurality of phase outputs, and a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module. The cover is configured to support the phase connector.

Yui fails to disclose at least the above limitations of the claimed invention. In contrast to the claimed invention, Yui is directed to a small-sized motor having a rotor including a shaft 7, a laminated core 8 mounted on the shaft 7, windings 9 wound around the laminated core 8, and a *commutator* 10 mounted on the shaft 7 (*see* Yui, paragraph [0008]). One skilled in the art would recognize that the use of a commutator 10 mounted on the shaft 7 directs the disclosure of Yui to direct current (DC) electric motors. In contrast, polyphased rotating electrical machines distribute alternating current (AC) and do not include commutators. Thus, Yui is not related to polyphased rotating electrical machines. The limitations “a polyphased wound stator having a plurality of phase outputs, and a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs...” are elements of a polyphased rotating electrical machine, not a DC motor. Further, it logically follows that because Yui does not disclose a phase connector,

Yui does not disclose a cover configured to support the phase connector. Therefore, Yui does not disclose at least the aforementioned limitations of new independent claim 25.

In view of the above, Yui fails to disclose the invention as recited in new independent claim 25. Because every claimed element must be present in the prior art reference to maintain a rejection under Section 102, claim 25 is not anticipated. Claims 26-49, directly or indirectly dependent from claim 25, are not anticipated for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Finally, as a prophylactic measure, Applicant notes that the amended claims are also not obvious in view of Yui. First of all, Yui is directed to DC motors, and thus a person skilled in the art would not be motivated to take selected teachings from Yui and apply them to the art of the claimed invention. Moreover, even assuming such motivation existed, Yui provides no suggestion for the claimed combination, including the cover, as now recited in the amended claims.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yui in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0256928 (hereinafter "Kondo"). Claims 2-20 have been cancelled by this reply. Thus, the rejection is now moot with respect to claims 2-20. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to new claims 25-49, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

"To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally,

the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” (See MPEP §2143).

The Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited references do not teach or suggest all the claimed limitations of new independent claims 25. As discussed above, Yui fails to disclose or teach, at least, a polyphased wound stator having a plurality of phase outputs, a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module, and a cover configured to be mounted on the rear bearing, wherein the cover is configured to support the phase connector. Kondo lacks that which Yui fails to teach. Kondo at least fails to disclose a cover configured to be mounted on the rear bearing, wherein the cover is configured to support the phase connector.

Furthermore, there is no suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to combine Yui and Kondo. As discussed above, Yui is directed to DC motors, and thus a person skilled in the art would not be motivated to take selected teachings from Yui and apply them to the art of the claimed invention.

Thus, Yui and Kondo, whether considered separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the limitations recited in new independent claim 25. Claims 26-49, directly or indirectly dependent from claim 25, are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yui and Kondo and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0158523 (hereinafter “Abadia”). Claims 21-24 have been cancelled in this reply. Thus, this rejection is now moot with respect to claims 21-24. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to new claims 25-49 the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited references do not teach or suggest all the claimed limitations of new independent claim 25. As discussed above, Yui fails to disclose or teach, at least, a polyphased wound stator having a plurality of phase outputs, a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module, and a cover configured to be mounted on the rear bearing, wherein the cover is configured to support the phase connector. Kondo and Abadia both lack that which Yui fails to teach. Kondo and Abadia both at least fail to disclose a cover configured to be mounted on the rear bearing, wherein the cover is configured to support the phase connector.

Furthermore, there is no suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to combine Yui with either Kondo or Abadia. As discussed above, Yui is directed to DC motors, and thus a person skilled in the art would not be motivated to take selected teachings from Yui and apply them to the art of the claimed invention.

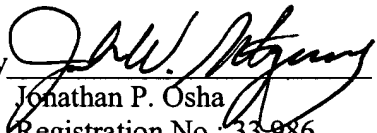
Thus, Yui, Kondo, and Abadia, whether considered separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the limitations recited in new independent claim 25. Claims 26-49, directly or indirectly dependent from claim 25, are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17170/010001)

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